

# **Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea**

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Document:-  
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## **Report of the Chairman of the Drafting Committee**

Extract from the *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, Volume XV (Summary Records, Plenary, General Committee and First Committee, as well as Documents of the Conference, Tenth and Resumed Tenth Sessions)*

**DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/L.73\*****Report of the Chairman of the Drafting Committee***[Original: English]**[26 June 1981]*

1. During the tenth session, the Drafting Committee continued its article-by-article textual review of the draft convention on the law of the sea (informal text) (A/CONF.62/WP.10/Rev.3 and Add.1 and 3) which it had begun at the informal intersessional meeting held in New York from 19 January to 27 February 1981 (A/CONF.62/L.67/Rev.1).

2. During this session there were 98 meetings of the language groups open to all delegations, 8 meetings of the co-ordinators of the language groups under the direction of the Chairman of the Drafting Committee and 5 informal meetings of the Drafting Committee.

3. During this session the Drafting Committee made a series of proposals on Part XI (CG/WP.15 and CG/WP.16), some of which have already been accepted by the informal plenary Conference (CG/WP.15) and will shortly be submitted to the plenary Conference for acceptance (A/CONF.62/L.72). The Drafting Committee still has under very active consideration a series of proposals relating to Part XI.

4. The language groups have worked intensively on Part XI and have already produced a large number of proposals which have not yet been processed beyond the level of the language groups. The Drafting Committee owes a very special debt of gratitude to the co-ordinators of the language groups and to the secretariat for their high level of devotion and dedication.

5. An informal intersessional meeting of the Drafting Committee will be held in Geneva from 29 June to 31 July 1981 in accordance with a decision taken by the Conference at its 149th meeting on 16 April 1981. The proposed time-table is as follows:

- Week 1 — Part XV and annexes V, VI, VII and VIII.
- Week 2 — Part XV and annexes V, VI, VII and VIII.
- Week 3 — Parts XVI and XVII, preamble and article 1.
- Week 4 — Part XI and annexes III and IV.
- Week 5 — Part XI and annexes III and IV.

\*Incorporating document A/CONF.62/L.73/Corr.1 of 13 July 1981.

**DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/L.74****Report of the Chairman of the Drafting Committee***[Original: English]**[3 August 1981]*

1. An informal meeting of the Drafting Committee was held in New York from 20 April to 24 April 1981 following the adjournment of the other organs of the first part of the tenth session of the Conference, in accordance with the decision taken by the Conference at its 147th meeting on 10 April 1981.

2. There were 10 meetings of the language groups open to all delegations, 3 meetings of the co-ordinators of the language groups under the direction of the Chairman of the Drafting Committee and 2 meetings of the Drafting Committee as a whole. Representatives of 30 countries participated in the meetings. The Drafting Committee maintained its previously established informal working methods.

3. In accordance with the time-table proposed by the Conference the Drafting Committee directed its attention exclusively to Part XI at its informal meeting.

4. All the language groups were able to complete the textual review of section 4 of Part XI of the draft convention. Some language groups have made proposals which covered both Part XI and the annexes relating thereto. The co-ordinators of the language groups completed consideration of articles 133 to 146 of Part XI of the draft convention.

5. The Drafting Committee is now submitting a series of proposals to the informal plenary Conference on Part XI of the draft convention. These recommendations are set out in document A/CONF.62/L.67/Add.16. Other matters regarding these Parts are still under review.